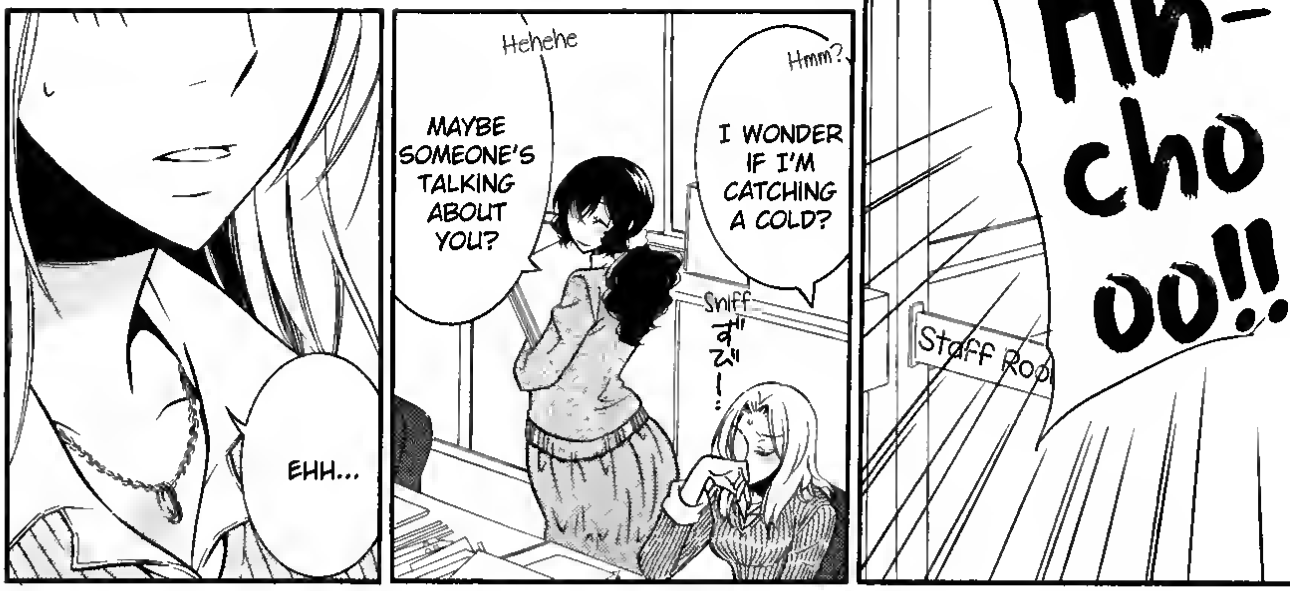
HUH?
Girls' Changing Room
THUMP
EH?
WHEN'D YOU START WEARING SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT RYOUKO?
AH!
WHA'DYA MEAN, SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT...
WHOA!
EVERYBODY. CHECK IT OUT! RYOUKO'S UPPING HER SEX APPEAL!!!
HUH?
Sex appeal?!!!
NO NO NO
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, GUYS...
!!!
EHHH.
...
WELL... IT IS RYOUKO WE'RE TALKIN' ABOUT...
AHHH.
HEY, THAT "AHHHH" IS RUDE, YA KNOW!
!!!
HA
...?



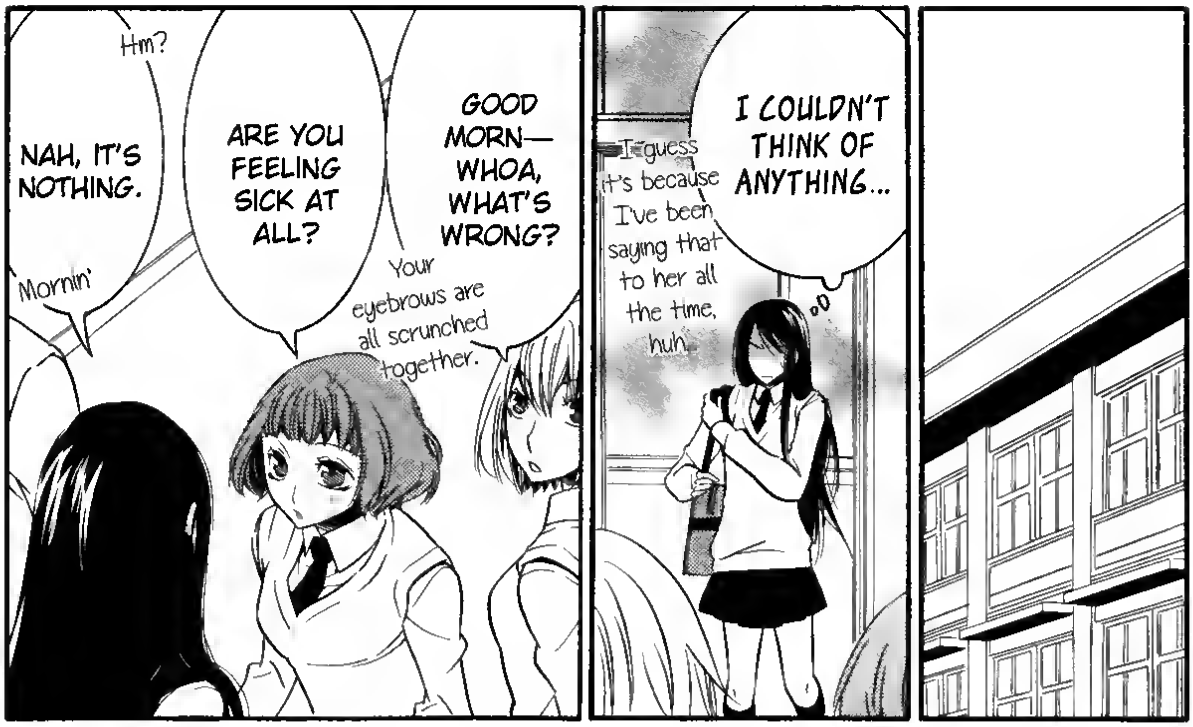
We have a secret.

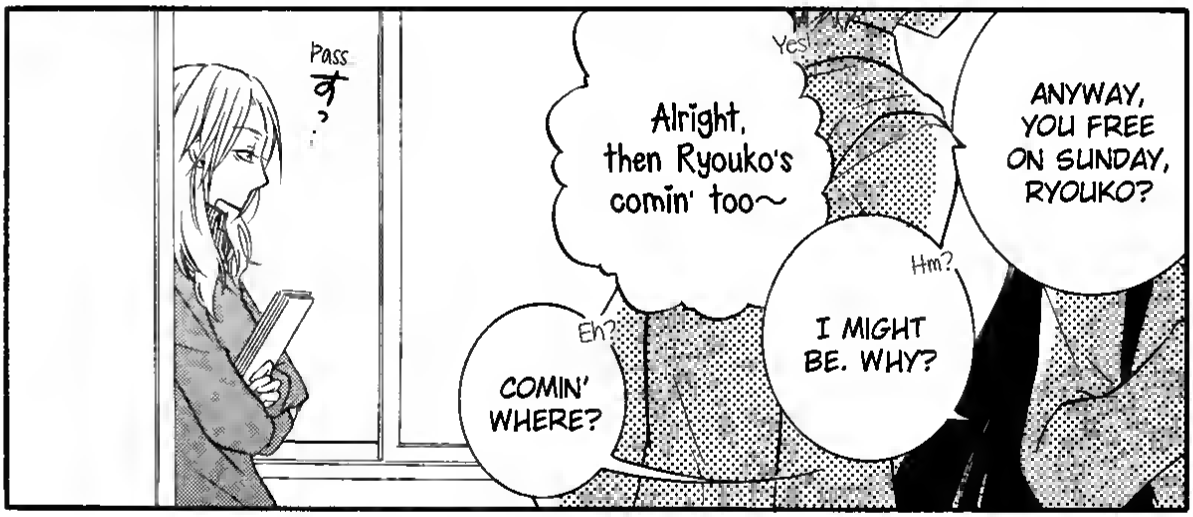
STEP FORWARD

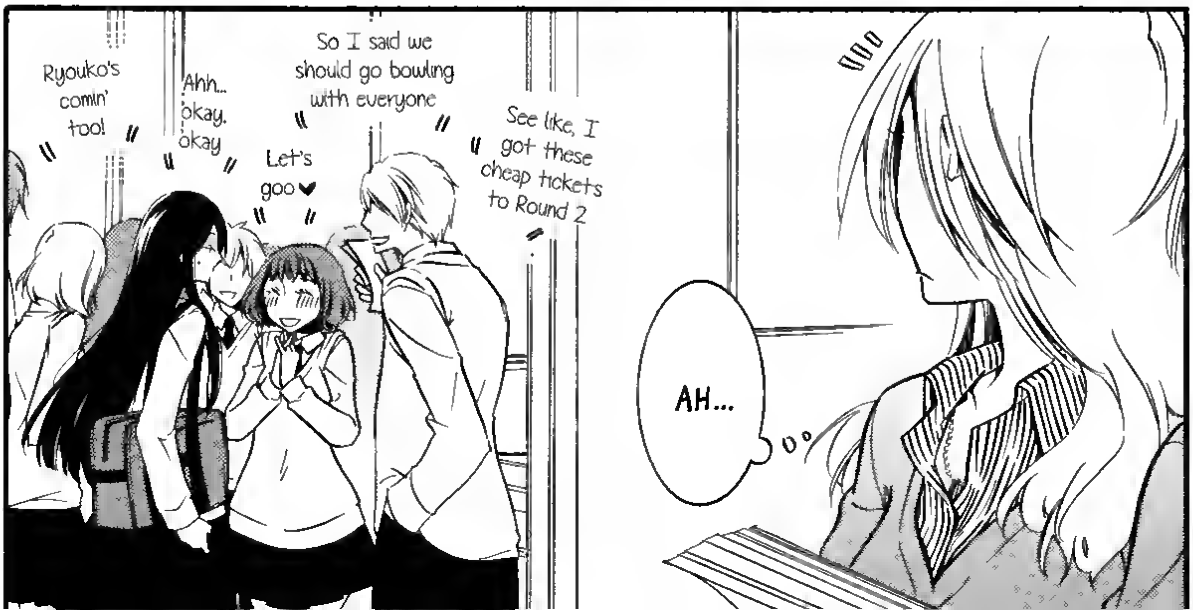
I put it on a necklace because I thought it would stand out if I wore it at school, but in the end...
It's a paired ring that I received from my beloved Ah-chan.
HAAA..
IT ENDED UP STANDING OUT A FAIR BIT.
Is it weird for me to be doing this?
Heehe
.....
...But anyway,
getting a paired ring from her, that, like...
Now that I think about, she didn't say that she loved me, did she?
Huh ...?
Pause
YAHAA WHAT SHOULD I DO!? KYAAAA!!! IS IT LOVE?
...means that Ah-chan loves me too, right!?
ROLL

Jeeez
YOU COULD AT LEAST KNOCK.
Even for a neighbour you're coming too often
AH-CHAN!!
WAH!
I LOVE YOU AH-CHAN!!!
Isn't it fine for neighbours!?
Listen to me!
I LOVE YOU AH-CHAN!!
HUH?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!!!
Um... I KNOW...?

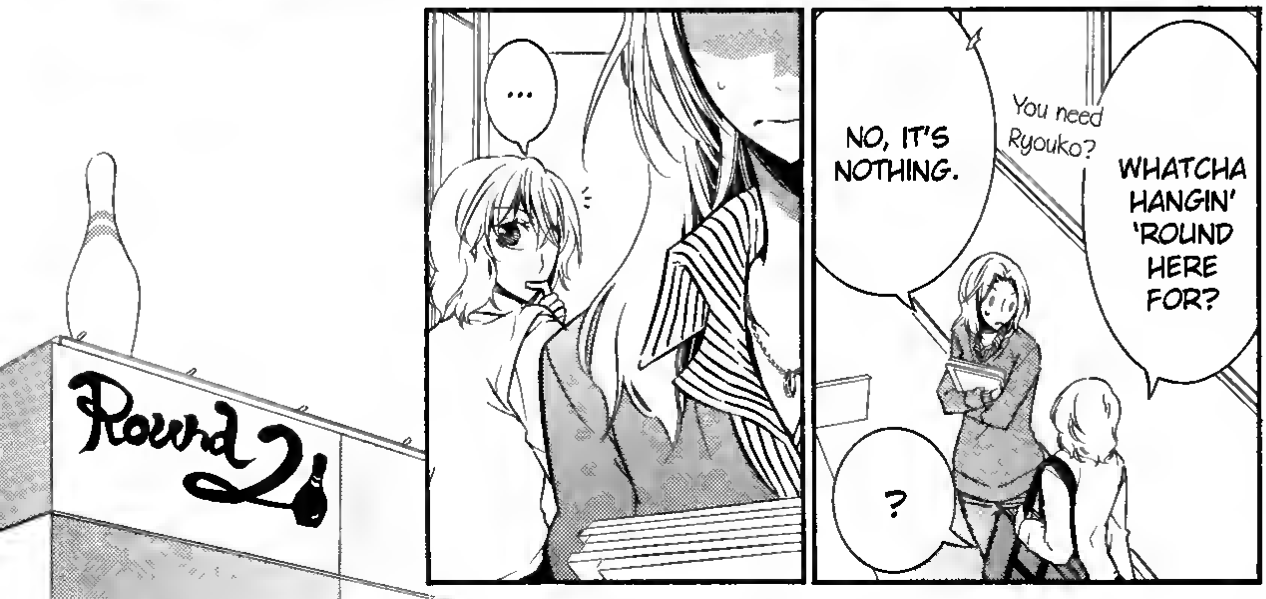
Seething
That's where you say, "I love you too," riiiiiight!!?
WHAT IS IT?
It would be easy to say, "Tell me you love me."
...But the first time Ah-chan says "love",
?
TIME FOR A CHANGE OF TACTICS!!
GOOD-NIGHT?
IT'S NOTHING!!
GOOD-NIGHT!!
I want it to come naturally from her own lips!!!


GOOD MORN— WHOA, WHAT'S WRONG?
Your eyebrows are all scrunched together.
ARE YOU FEELING SICK AT ALL?
Hm?
NAH, IT'S NOTHING.
Mornin'
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING...
I guess it's because I've been saying that to her all the time, huh.


ANYWAY, YOU FREE ON SUNDAY, RYOUKO?
Yes!
I MIGHT BE. WHY?
Hm?
Alright, then Ryouko's comin' too~
COMIN' WHERE?
Eh?
Pass


AH...
See like, I got these cheap tickets to Round 2
So I said we should go bowling with everyone
Let's goo♥
Ahh... okay. okay
Ryouko's comin' too!

.....
HUH?
GUSSAN?

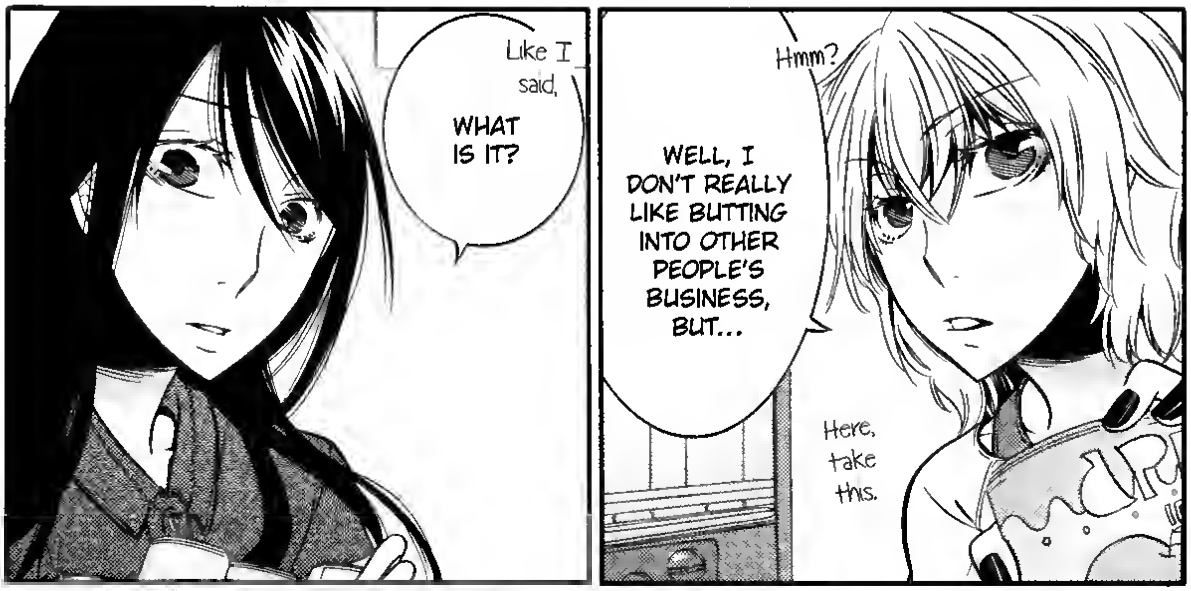

...
NO, IT'S NOTHING.
You need Ryouko?
WHATCHA HANGIN' 'ROUND HERE FOR?
?
Round 2

HAHAHA!
IT WAS A FLUKE. JUST A FLUKE.
Soo cool.
Yessss!
First strike
ガコ
GA-THUNK
Before that, you hadn't even gotten a spare, right?

I know right!!
YOU'RE SO NICE, RUMI-CHAN!!
Squeeze!
WAH!

HUH?
A FLUKE? WHAT WAS A FLUKE?
16 lbs (7257 kg.)
16
Please forgive us...
Put the weapons down..
BUT THAT REALLY WAS AWESOME, RYOUKO. I'VE NEVER ONCE GOTTEN A STRIKE.

SO, WHAT'D YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT...?

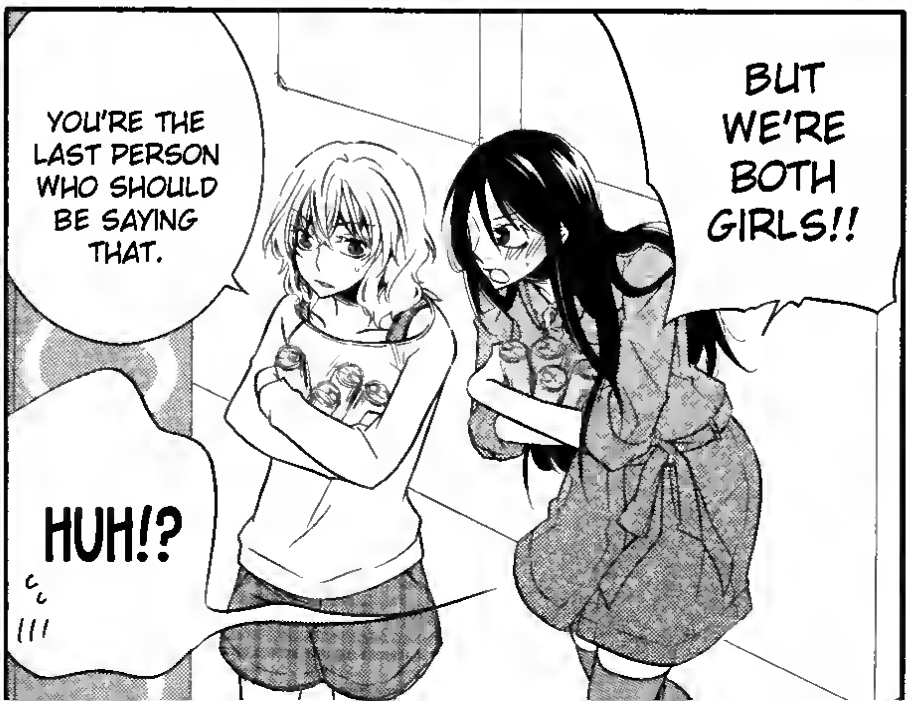


YOU KNOW THAT RUMI'S PROBABLY IN LOVE WITH YOU, RIGHT RYOUKO?
Beep
Thunk!

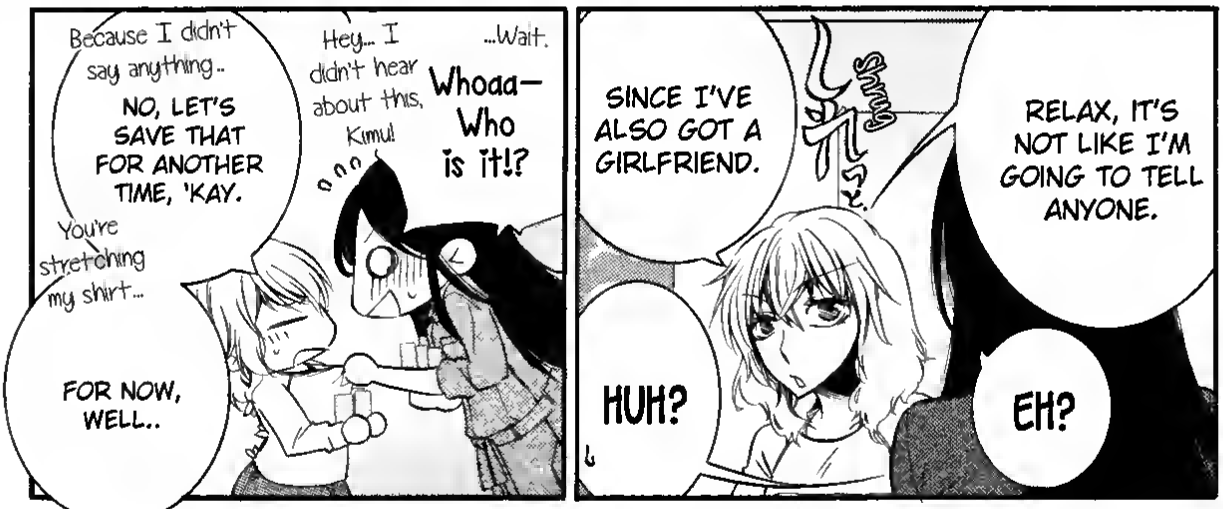
SO YOU REALLY DIDN'T NOTICE, HUH?

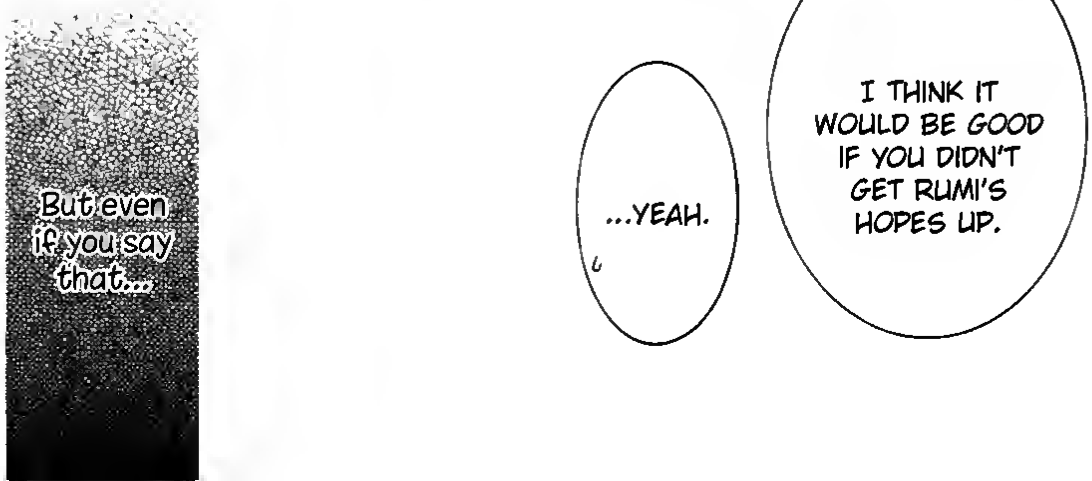
EH?

Slip
THIS.


YOU'RE THE LAST PERSON WHO SHOULD BE SAYING THAT.
HUH!?
BUT WE'RE BOTH GIRLS!!

YOU AND GUSSAN HAVE PAIRED RINGS, RIGHT?
Gussan was wearing the same one earlier...
!
ギクッ
Shock..!
AH!

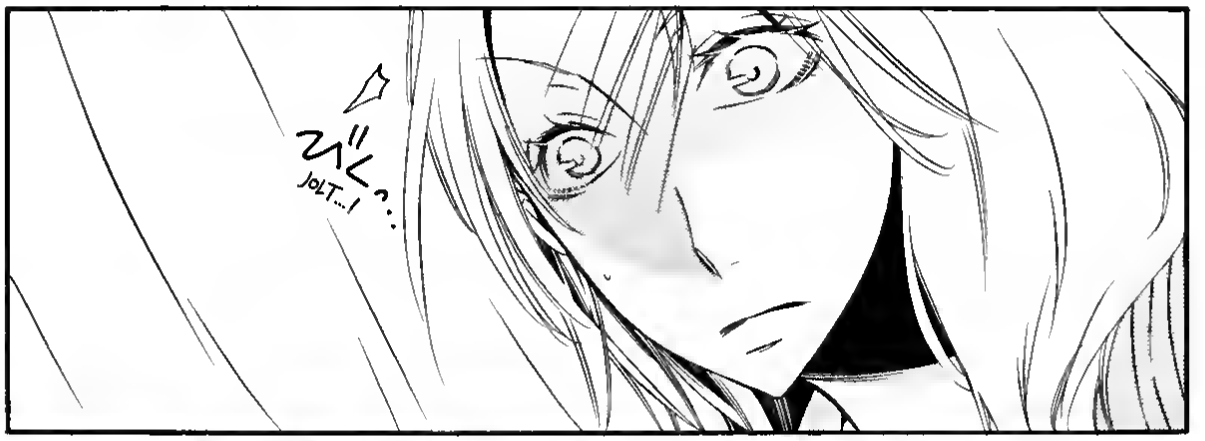

RELAX, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO TELL ANYONE.
SINCE I'VE ALSO GOT A GIRLFRIEND.
Shuu
EH?
HUH?
Because I didn't say anything..
NO, LET'S SAVE THAT FOR ANOTHER TIME, 'KAY.
You're stretching my shirt...
FOR NOW, WELL..
Hey... I didn't hear about this, Kimu!
...Wait.
Whoaa— Who is it!?


I THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD IF YOU DIDN'T GET RUMI'S HOPES UP.
...YEAH.
But even if you say that...

Huh?
I'm back...
WELCOME BACK!
You took a while
For Rumi to feel... I mean, isn't that just your imagin-
At a family restaurant
Thanks...
Ah, should I get you something from the drink bar?
Huh?
STUPID
What're ya gonna sing?
Huh?
At karaoke
Heey, heey
On the way home☆
LOVE AURA MAX
I DIDN'T NOTICE AT ALL...
Seriously...?

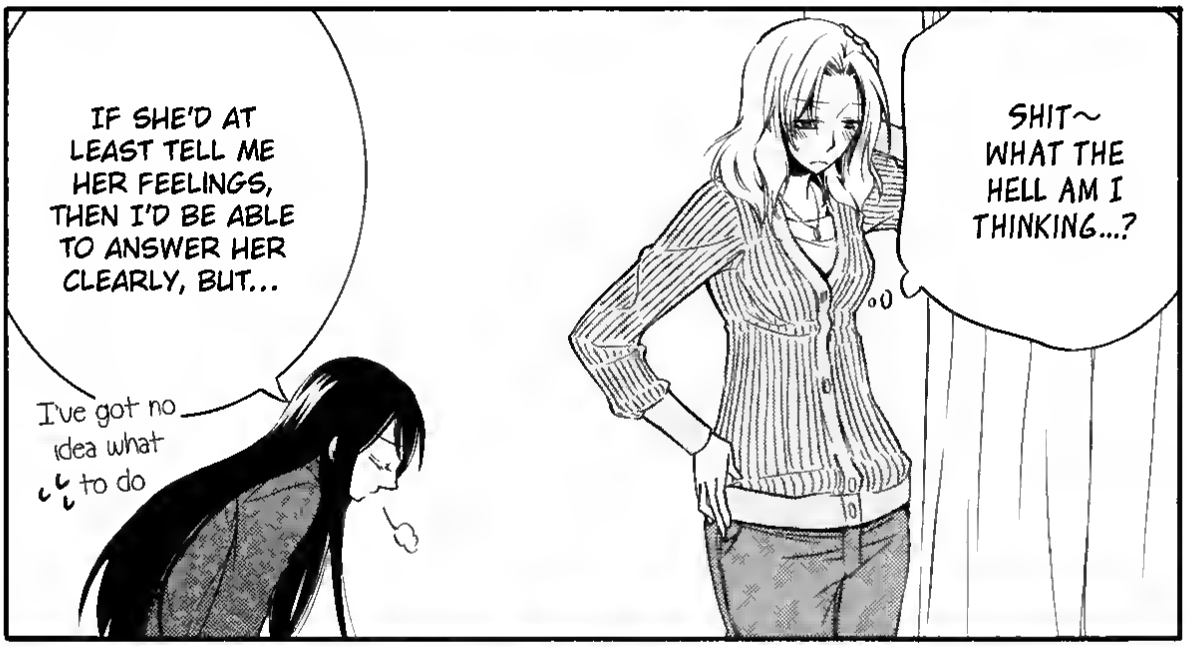
むくり
slowly
.....
SO... TIRED...
LOVE
LOVE
I never even thought that someone else might be in love with me...
Up until now I've always been putting out my own love aura while chasing after Ah-chan, but
And for it to be a girl...
WHA AAA...
UGG GGH...
I GUESS JUST ACTING LIKE USUAL WON'T WORK?
Hmmm...
I dunno...
WHAT SHOULD I DO SO I DON'T GET HER HOPES UP?

...so.
I don't get it at all!!
Irritated
Help me, Ah-chan!
BUT LIKE, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS HAS HAPPENED TO ME...
THAT'S WHY YOU CAME TO ASK ME ABOUT IT?
.....
I GUESS IT'S TO BE EXPECTED. I MEAN, SHE'S STILL A KI...
ugh...
Down.
EVEN IF SHE SAYS IT'S THE FIRST TIME ...STILL.

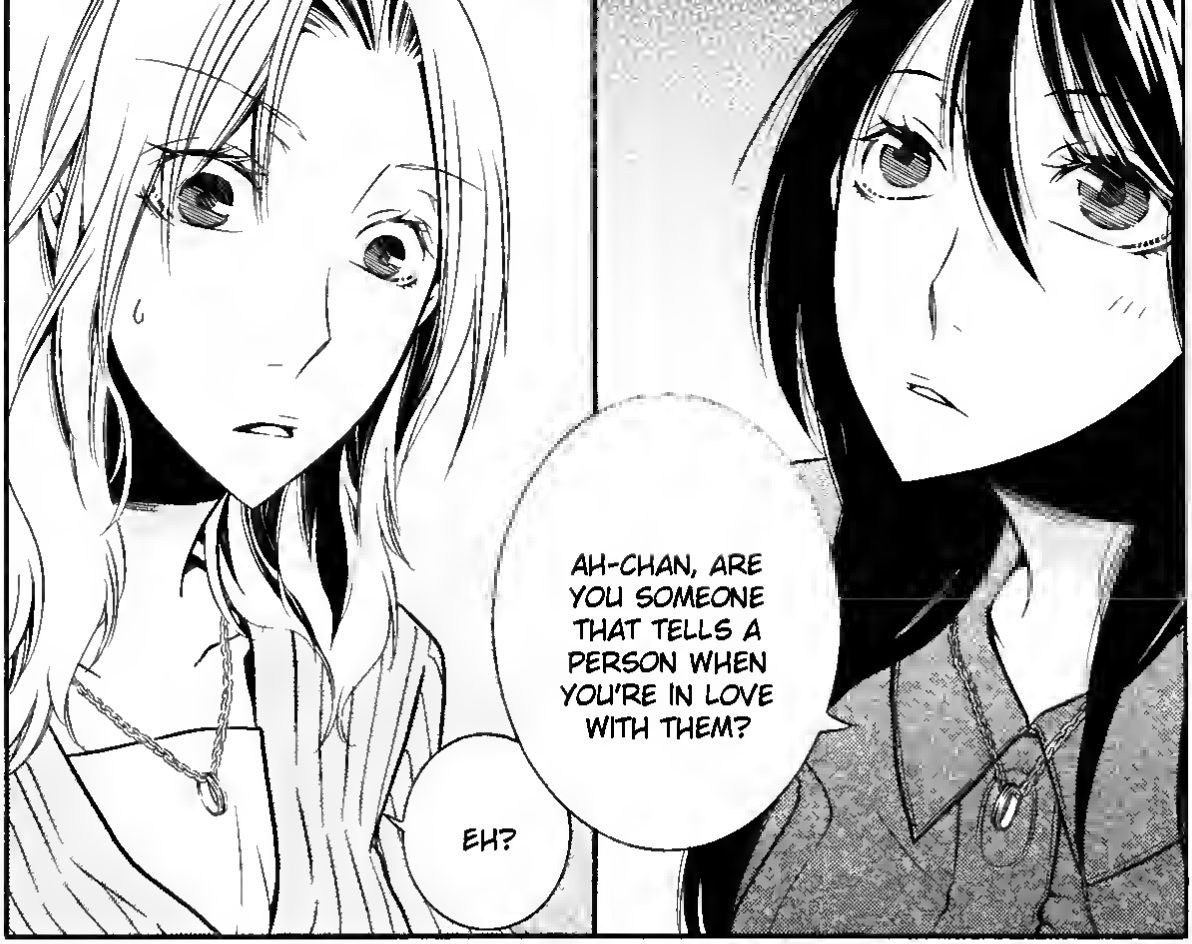

ズバッ
JOLT...!

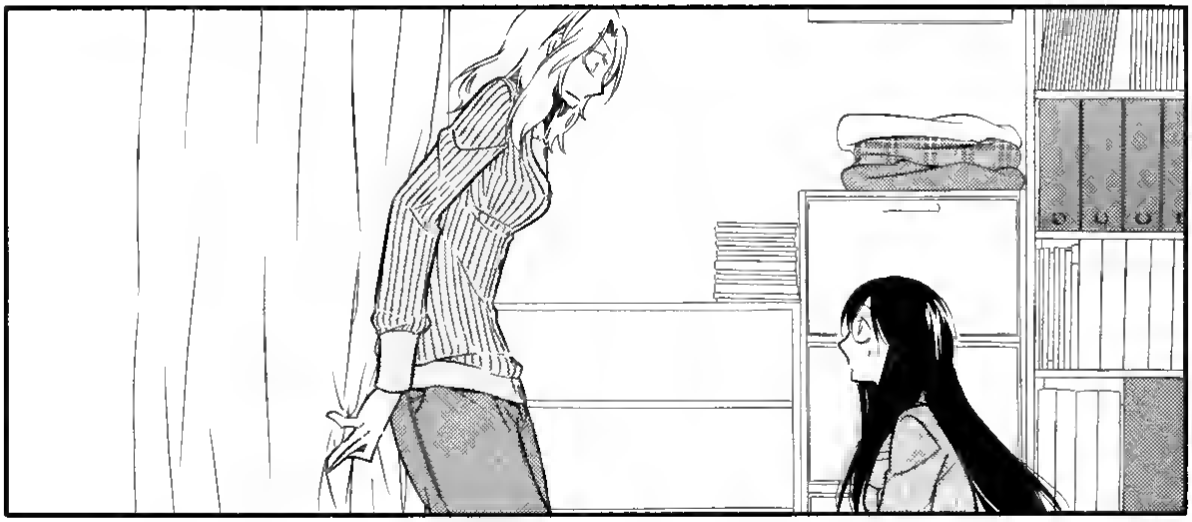
I GUESS THAT GIRL WOULD BE A MORE AGE-APPROPRIATE PARTNER...
ABSURDLY

NO, NO, NOTHING AT ALL!!
YOU SURE?
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
Hm?


IF SHE'D AT LEAST TELL ME HER FEELINGS, THEN I'D BE ABLE TO ANSWER HER CLEARLY, BUT...
I've got no idea what to do
SHIT~ WHAT THE HELL AM I THINKING...?

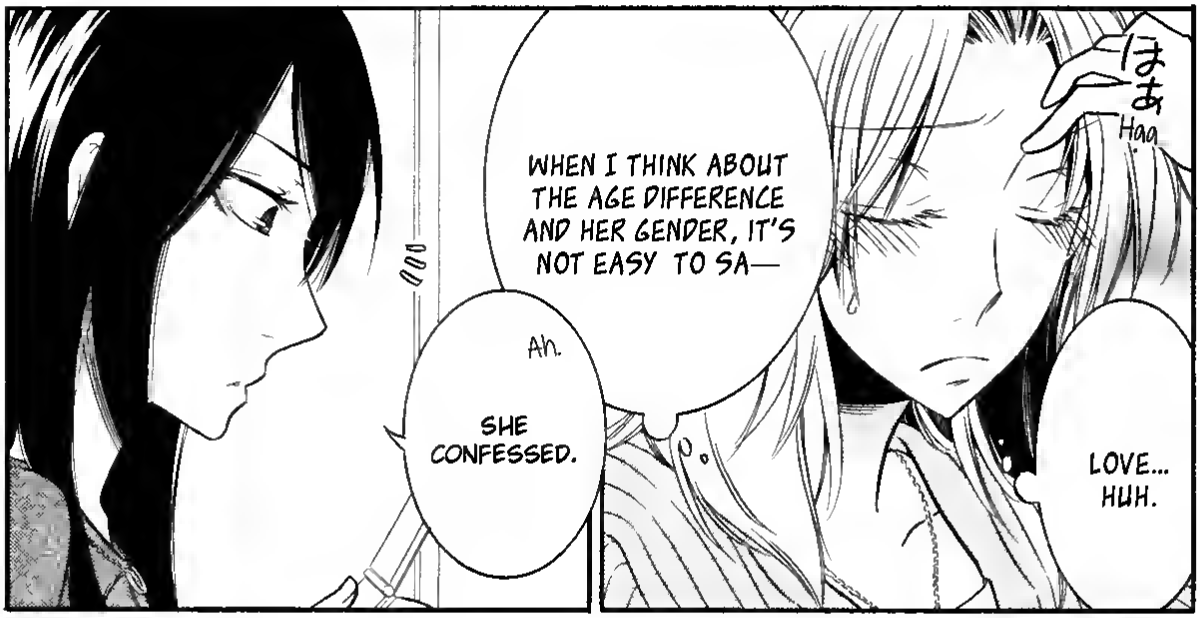
.....
...Wait.
AH.

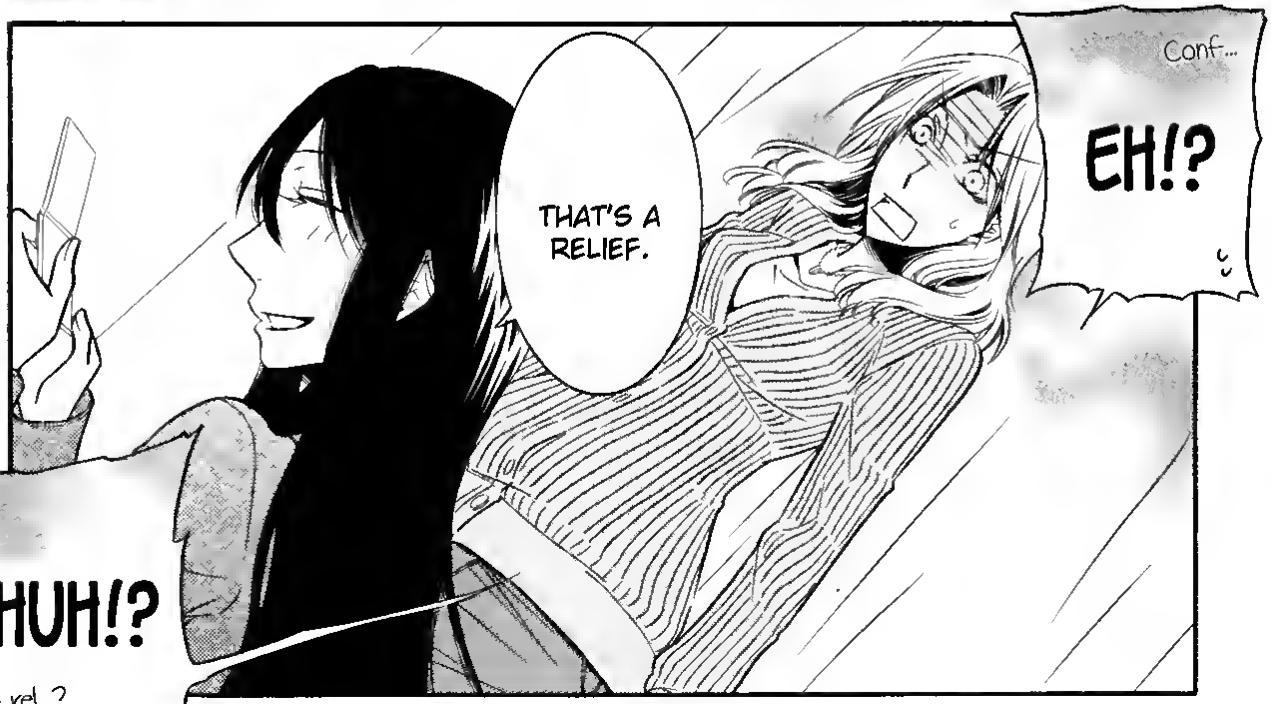

AH-CHAN, ARE YOU SOMEONE THAT TELLS A PERSON WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THEM?
EH?



...YOUR PHONE'S RINGING.
ring ring ring ring

IT'S AN EMAIL...
YOU SHOULD ANSWER IT.
THAT SURPRISED ME...


はあ
Haa
WHEN I THINK ABOUT THE AGE DIFFERENCE AND HER GENDER, IT'S NOT EASY TO SA—
LOVE... HUH.
Ah.
SHE CONFESSED.


Conf...
EH!?
THAT'S A RELIEF.
HUH!?
A rel...?

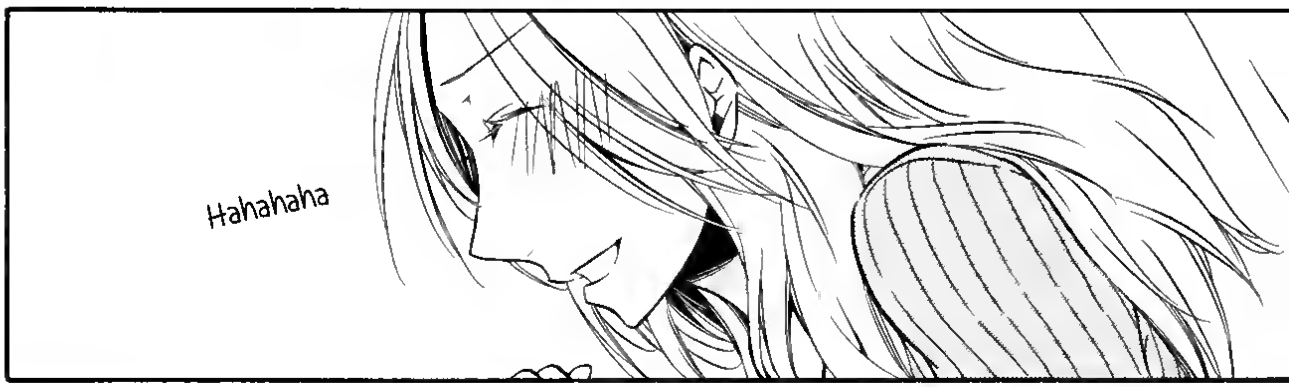
I WAS HAPPY TO HEAR THAT SHE LOVES ME, BUT...
THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON I WANT TO SAY THAT TO ME.
Hm?
WELL, THIS WAY I CAN PROPERLY TURN HER DOWN, RIGHT?
!
RYOUKO.
とん
Thud
HM?
And... sent.

reach

I LOVE YOU.

Say it!!
AA!
I WAS SO SURPRISED THAT I DIDN'T EVEN HEAR IT, SO ONE MORE TIME!!
NO WAY. It's embarrassing..
EEH!?
WHY NOTT!?
.....
JEEZ...
BWA!?
FOREHEAD KISSSSS...
HAAAALT
AREN'T YOU ACTING A BIT TOO SURPRISED?

Our secret is that



we finally became a couple.

fin.

Divulge Scans

Steps: Step Forward
Takemiya Jin

Raws: Shadow
TL: Cyfer
Editing: Shadow
Played AoiShiro the Whole Time: Inamorato

Divulge Scans –
http://divulge-scans.tumblr.com

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